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Thea Stilton



**THE SECRET OF THE
WATERFALL IN THE WOODS**



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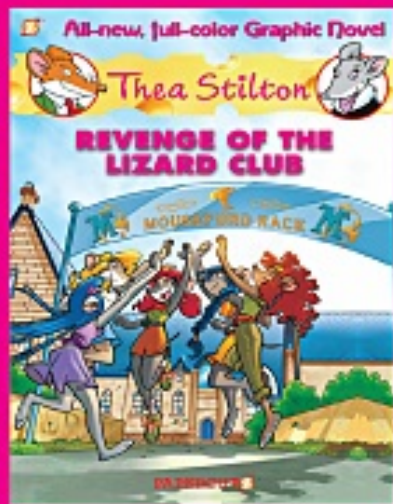
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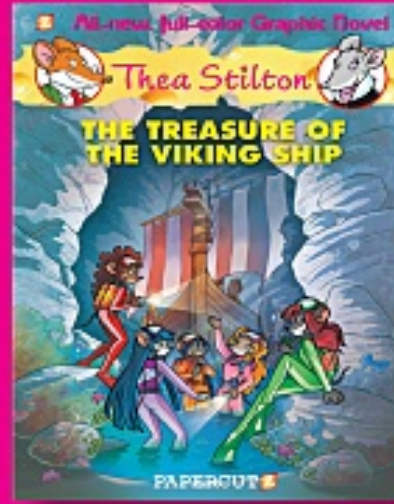
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THE SECRET OF THE WATERFALL IN THE WOODS

By Thea Stilton



PAPERCUTTM

New York

THE SECRET OF THE WATERFALL IN THE WOODS

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Based on an original idea by Elisabetta Dami

www.geronimostilton.com

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ON *Whale Island*, SOMETHING AMAZING
HAPPENS BETWEEN THE END OF SUMMER
AND THE BEGINNING OF FALL!



THE DAM AT THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN IS
OPENED SO THAT WATER CAN FLOW OVER
THE FALLS AND BRING THE RIVER THAT
RUNS THROUGH THE FOREST BACK TO LIFE.



WHEN THAT HAPPENS, THE STUDENTS FROM
MOUSEFORD ACADEMY TAKE A FIELD TRIP
THROUGH THE FOREST, ENDING WITH A PICNIC
IN A MEADOW, WHERE THEY WATCH THE DAM OPEN!



THE FIELD TRIP'S JUST A DAY AWAY, AND ALL THE STUDENTS
ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO GET EVERYTHING READY!

YUM...
SANDWICHES!





"IT'S PROFESSOR
VAN KRAKEN!"



PROFESSOR,
WHAT HAPPENED?

ARE
YOU OKAY?
TELL US WHAT
HAPPENED!



~PUFF...~
~PANT...~

I SAW
SOMETHING REALLY
AWFUL, KIDS!



"I WENT INTO
THE FOREST THIS
MORNING TO MAKE
SURE EVERYTHING
WOULD BE OKAY FOR
THE FIELD TRIP
TOMORROW."



"WHEN
SUDDENLY..."

GROOOO!!



"THAT BEAR'S HURT.
I'D BETTER BE CAREFUL..."

GROOOOW!!

"I WAS ABOUT TO GO
BACK AND GET HELP
WHEN..."

GROOOOW!!

HELP!

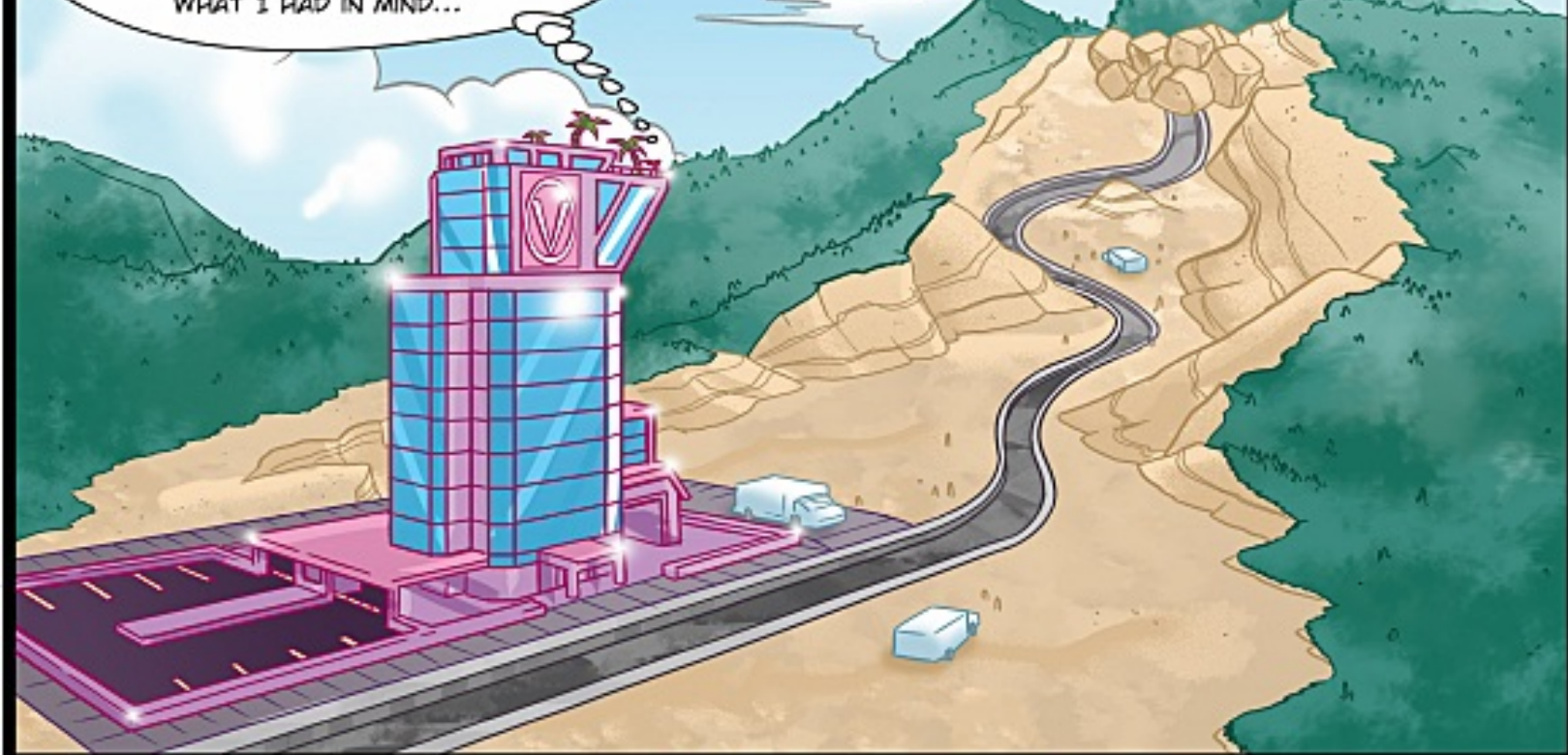
HOW WEIRD...!
BEARS AREN'T USUALLY
AGGRESSIVE...

YEAH, AND USUALLY
THEY DON'T VENTURE
INTO THE LOWEST PART
OF THE WOODS...



WHAT THE THEA SISTERS, PROF. VAN KRAKEN, AND THE OTHER STUDENTS DON'T KNOW IS THAT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN, VANILLA'S MOTHER, VISSIA DE VISSSEN, IS WINDING UP THE FINAL ARRANGEMENTS IN HER PLAN FOR BECOMING EVEN RICHER AND MORE FAMOUS!

WHEN THE MAYOR OF *Whale Island* GAVE ME PERMISSION TO BUILD THIS HOTEL, HE CERTAINLY COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN WHAT I HAD IN MIND...



IT'S ALMOST READY NOW... TOMORROW'LL BE THE BIG DAY!



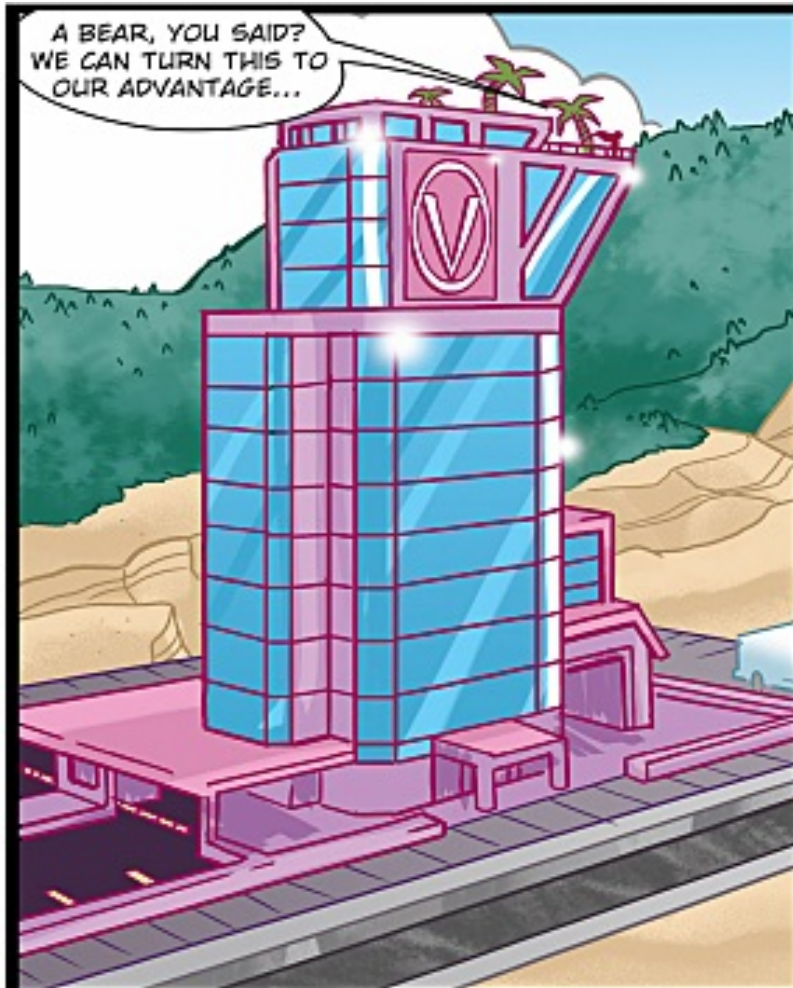
VANILLA, DEAR... TELL ME YOU'VE HAVE GOOD NEWS TO REPORT TO YOUR MOM!



OH, YES... I'M SURE THAT WITH YOUR TALENTS YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE THIS BENEFIT THE DE VISSSEN FAMILY...



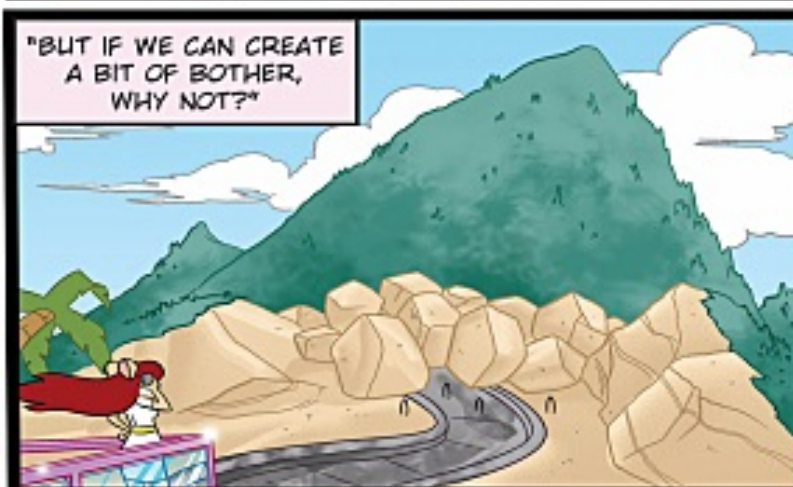
A BEAR, YOU SAID?
WE CAN TURN THIS TO
OUR ADVANTAGE...



"NOT THAT IT'S NECESSARY...
EVERYTHING'S READY
FOR MY BIG SUCCESS
TOMORROW..."



"BUT IF WE CAN CREATE
A BIT OF BOTHER,
WHY NOT?"



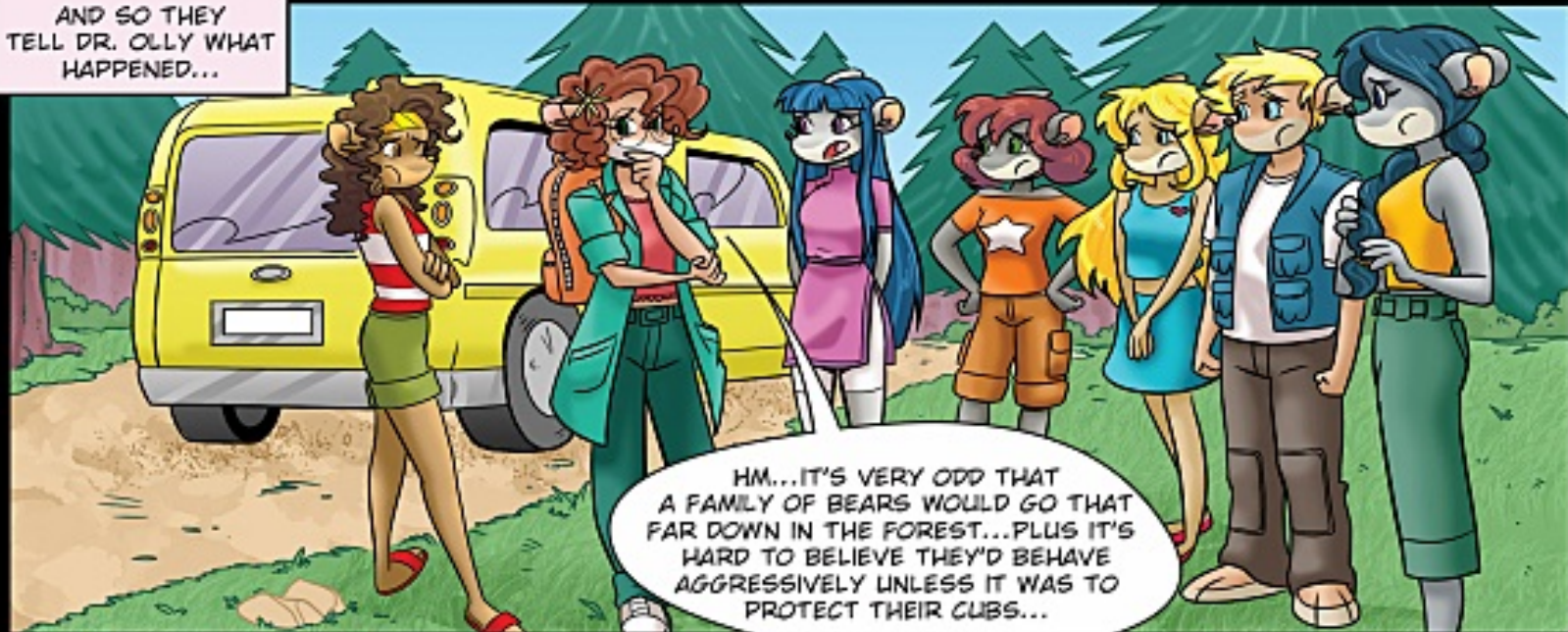
IT WON'T BE SO EASY...
THEY'RE CONTACTING DR. OLLY,
THE ISLAND VETERINARIAN! SHE'LL
WANT TO HELP THEM OUT!



"IT DOESN'T MATTER, MY
DEAR...IT WILL TAKE VERY
LITTLE TO CREATE PANIC!"



AND SO THEY
TELL DR. OLLY WHAT
HAPPENED...



BUT THAT ANIMAL'S A DANGER TO THE WHOLE ISLAND! YOU NEED TO CATCH IT BEFORE IT COMES EVEN FARTHER DOWN AND COMES INTO THE VILLAGE!

IT'S THE BEAR THAT'S IN DANGER, VANILLA... SOMEONE MUST HAVE ATTACKED IT...

VANILLA'S ACTING SUSPICIOUSLY!

PAULINA, COLETTE... I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU STAY HERE TO KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS.

I AGREE WITH YOU... I WOULDN'T WANT THAT BULLY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION!

THAT'S LUCKY! I STILL HAVE LOTS MORE MAKEUP TO ADD TO MY KIT!

HA! HA! COLETTE, YOU'RE INCORRIGIBLE!

WHAT ARE THOSE STUCK-UP GIRLS LAUGHING ABOUT?

WHY DON'T YOU LOOSEN UP A BIT, LITTLE SISTER? YOU KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING? I REALLY THINK I'M GOING TO JOIN THEM!

WH-WHAT?

VIC AND PAMELA IN THE WOODS? BUT THEN THEY'LL SPEND LOTS OF TIME ALONE TOGETHER!

GREAT TO HAVE YOU! WELCOME ONBOARD, VIC!

AND SO, THE GROUP VENTURES
INTO THE *Whale Island* WOODS...
THE BREATHTAKING LANDSCAPE
MAKES THEM FORGET ABOUT THEIR
MISSION FOR A MOMENT...









"YEAH...LOOK...THERE'S A SACK OF CEMENT NEXT TO THE CUB! WHAT'S IT DOING THERE?"



I HAVE TO TRY TO GET CLOSER IF I WANT TO TREAT ITS PAW...

GIRLS, DR. OLLY, COME OVER HERE AND LOOK!



I'D SAY WE HAVE AN ANSWER...



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... WHO COULD'VE MADE A MESS LIKE THIS?!









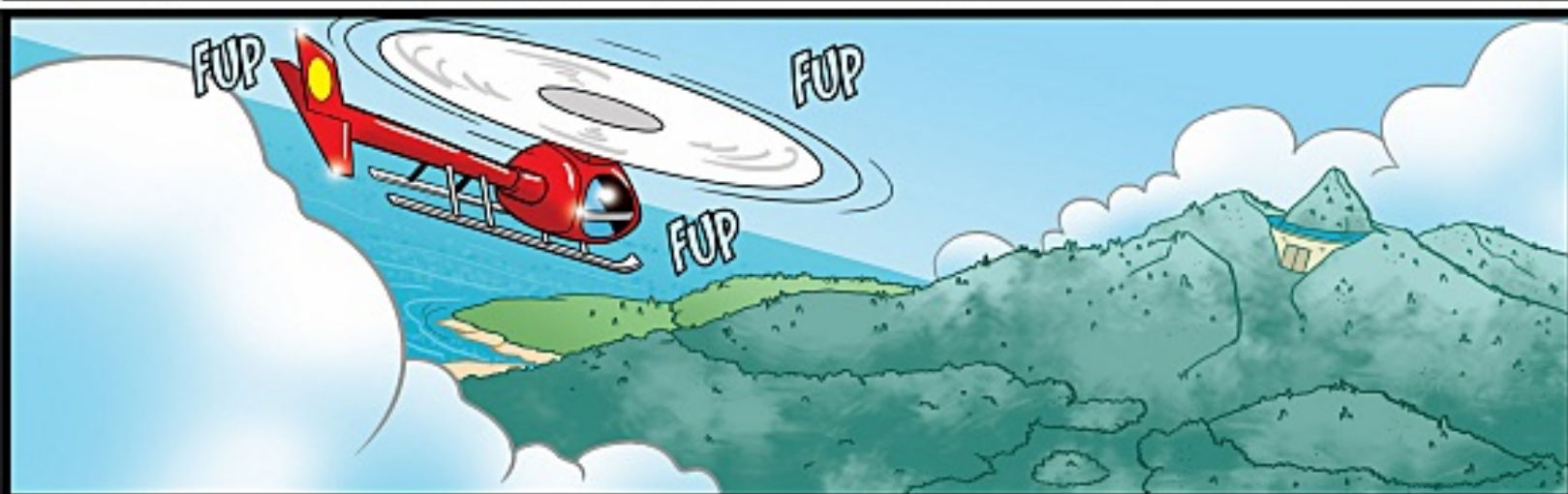
MEANWHILE, AT
MOUSEFORD ACADEMY,
PAULINA AND COLETTE FIND
OUT THAT THEIR FEARS,
UNFORTUNATELY,
WERE VALID...

PAULINA! QUICK,
COME SEE!

?







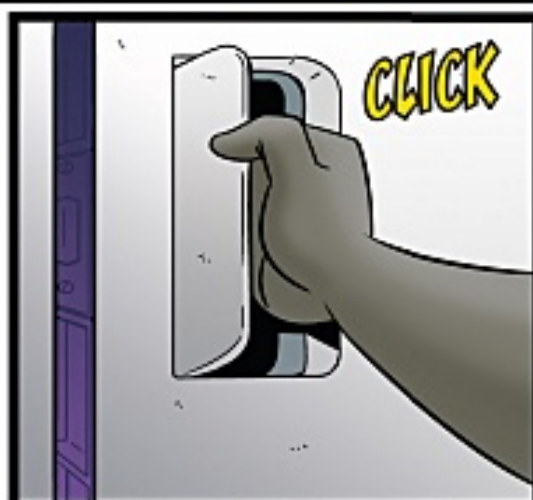


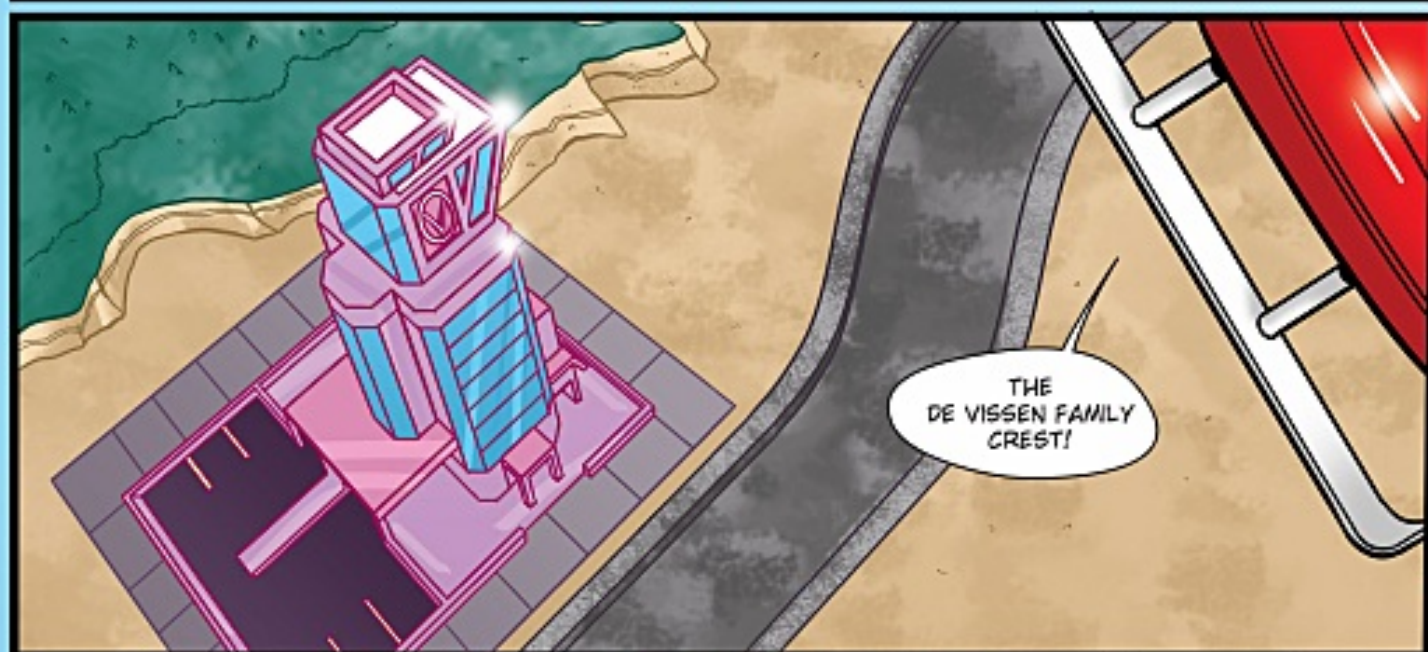
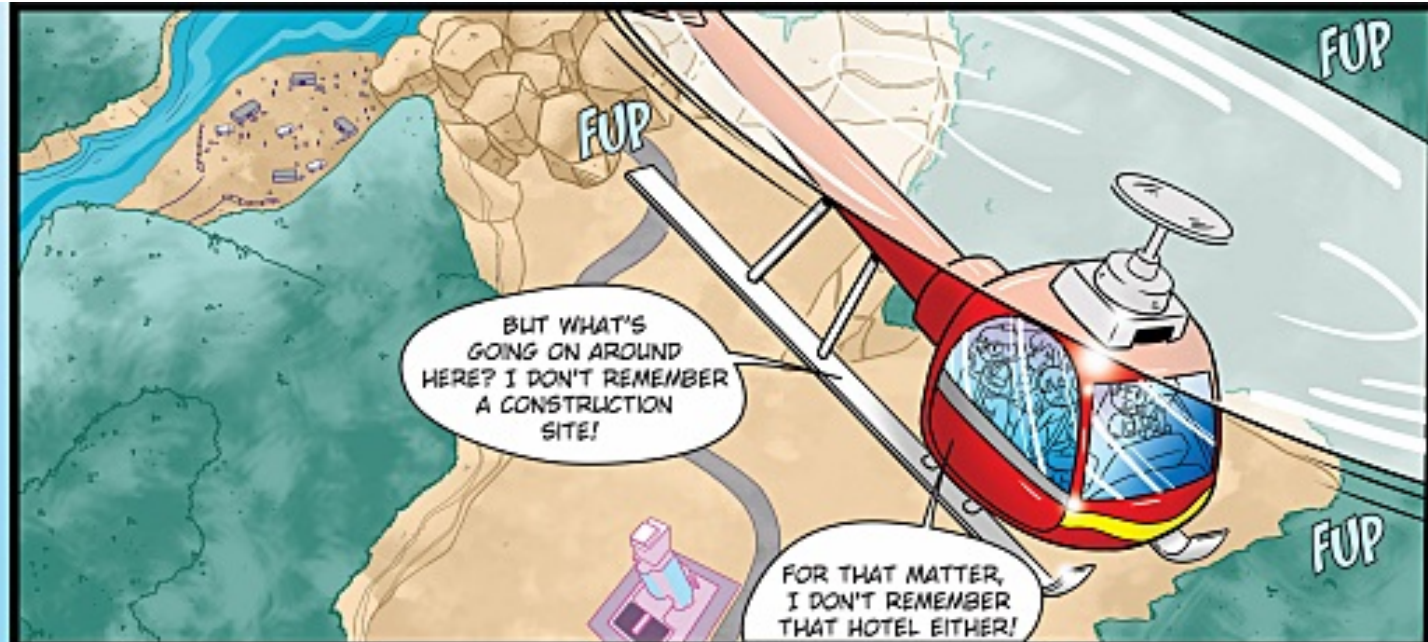


NOT FAR AWAY,
HOWEVER, THINGS ARE
ABOUT TO TAKE A TURN
FOR THE WORSE...





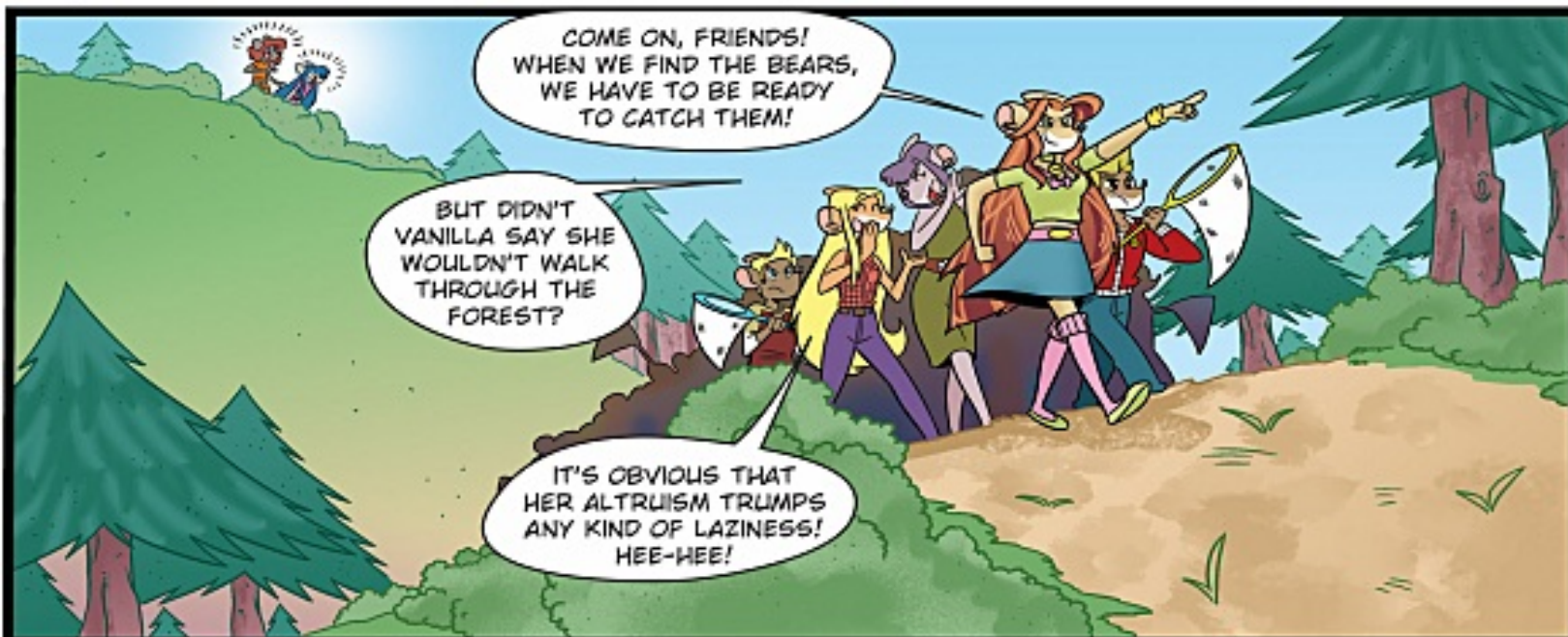














IF YOU THINK WE'RE GOING TO LET YOU DO THAT, YOU'RE MAKING A BIG MISTAKE!

THINK ABOUT IT, MY DEAR...HOW MUCH OF A CHANCE DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE?

WE DON'T HAVE ANY CHANCE OF GETTING OUT OF HERE!

WHAT IS IT, COLETTE?

=MUMBLES... I WAS SURE THAT...

AH-HA! I KNEW IT! LUCKILY I HADN'T FINISHED PACKING MY MAKEUP BAG YET.

COME OVER HERE, PAULINA! IT'S TIME FOR A TOTAL MANICURE!

HAH! HAH! YOU'RE A GENIUS, COLETTE!

WELL DONE, KIDS! NOW LET'S TELL SOMEONE ABOUT THOSE RODENTS!

SLAM

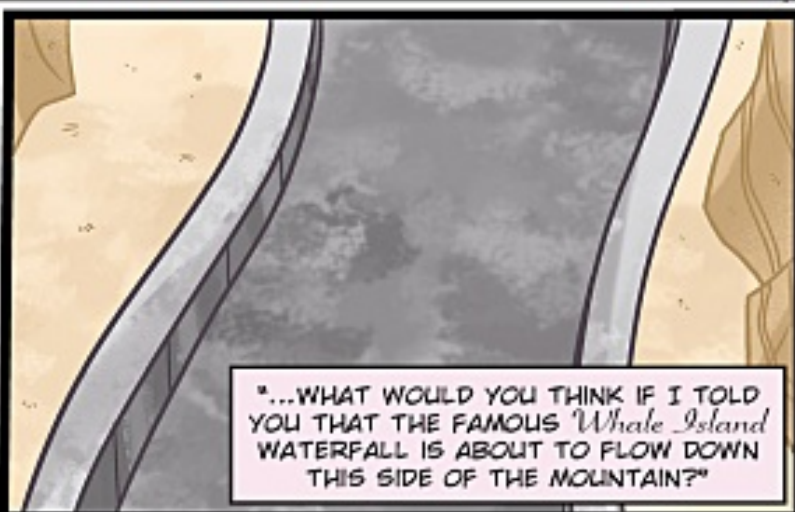
HEY, YOU! WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?













00:00:10





00:00:00



RUUUMBLE

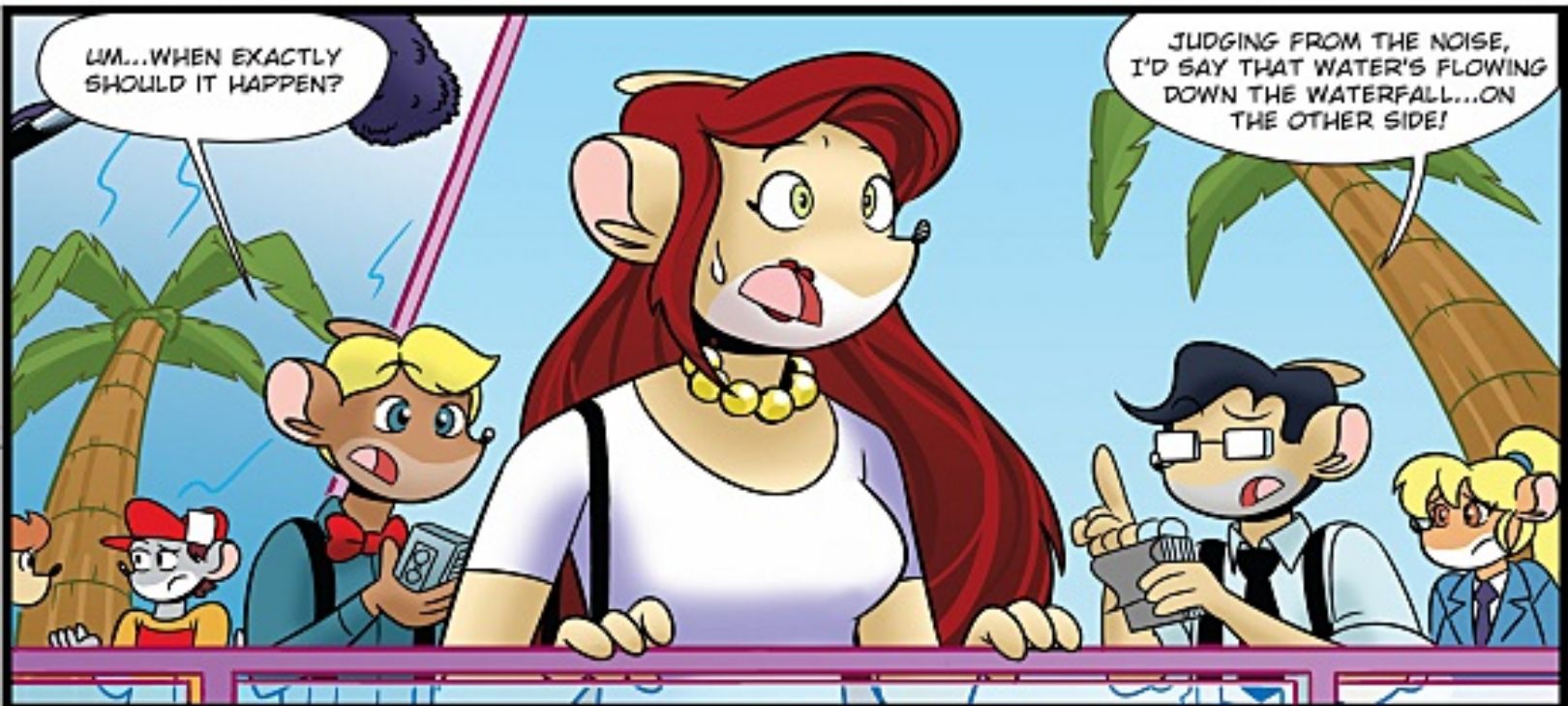


RUUUMBLE



RUUUMBLE





UM...WHEN EXACTLY SHOULD IT HAPPEN?

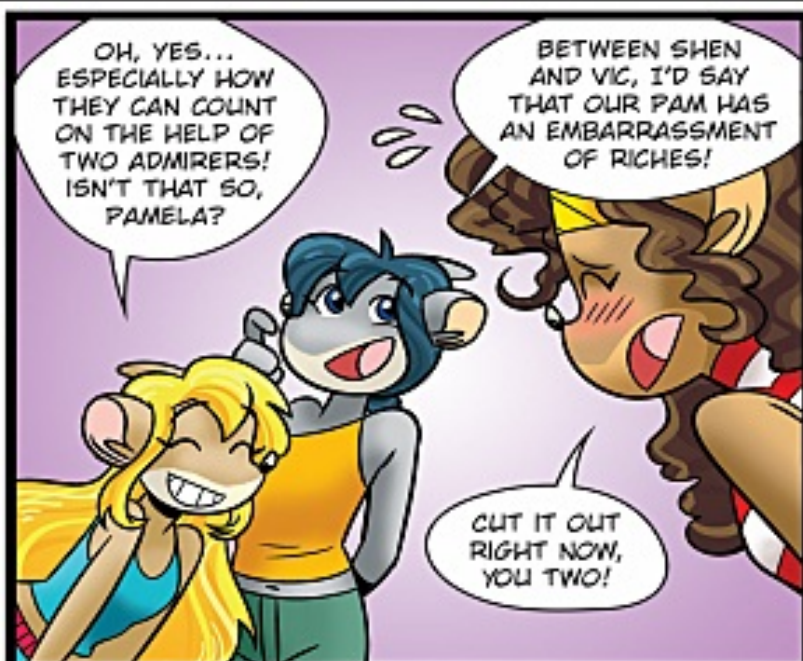
JUDGING FROM THE NOISE, I'D SAY THAT WATER'S FLOWING DOWN THE WATERFALL...ON THE OTHER SIDE!



HOLD ON, JUST A MINUTE... SUCH IMPATIENCE! THIS IS JUST ALL PART OF THE BEAUTY OF LIVE COVERAGE!



I HOPE YOU HAVE A GOOD EXPLANATION, VANILLA! WHY IS THE ROCK WALL STILL INTACT? I'M MAKING A BAD IMPRESSION!







Watch Out For PAPERCUTZ™



Welcome to the fun-filled, eco-friendly fifth THEA STILTON graphic novel from Papercutz, those cheese-loving folks dedicated to publishing great graphic novels for all ages. I'm *Jim Salicrup*, Editor-in-Cheese, er, I mean, Chief and Honorary Editor of the Mouseford Academy Yearbook.

As much fun as this particular graphic novel may be, did you know there's even more THEA STILTON and Papercutz excitement waiting for you online? Just head on over to geronimostilton.com and you'll find all sorts of stuff about Thea Stilton and her cousin Geronimo Stilton—as well as an awesome app that can mousify your photos. While over at Papercutz.com there's a ton of information about such Papercutz projects as...



NICKELODEON MAGAZINE – an all-new, all-different magazine filled with comics based on the newest stars seen on Nickelodeon. There's Sanjay and Craig, Breadwinners, Harvey Beaks and Pig Goat Banana Cricket! The same cartoon superstars who are now appearing on Friday nights on Nickelodeon also star in this awesome magazine. (Even Geronimo Stilton made a surprise cameo appearance in the Calendar in the October issue!) You'll find information on how to subscribe to the magazine on the site, or you can just visit your favorite newsstand or wherever they sell magazines and check out the latest issue.



SCARLETT – an exciting graphic novel that's half graphic novel, half chapter book. Scarlett is a small, harlequin-colored cat—that's right, a cat!—and a huge movie star. And what's more—she talks! Abused by her producer, however, she dreams of only one thing: escaping! So, when the occasion presents itself, she runs for her life. In the company of Trotter, a dog who's escaped the same torment, she is taken in by Mr. Frank Mole. But with the noose getting tighter, will they manage to elude their terrible pursuers? This book by Susan Schade and Jon Buller is a lot of fun, and we're sure you'll love it!

DISNEY GRAPHIC NOVELS – An all-new graphic novel series, as the name clearly states, that features a rotating line-up of major Disney stars. In the first volume, PLANES are featured, but for all you cartoon mouse lovers, none other than Mickey Mouse himself stars in the second volume! In a series called X-MICKEY, he explores all sorts of supernatural happenings.

But the biggest news of all may not be on the Papercutz website. As some of you may know, the GERONIMO STILTON and THEA STILTON graphic novels have been produced in Italy and translated and published in English by Papercutz. Starting with THEA STILTON #5, we're now producing the THEA STILTON and GERONIMO STILTON graphic novels ourselves from the start! Well, Geronimo and Thea will still be telling their stories to writers Francesco Savino and Leonardo Favia, who will write their scripts in Italian, and Nanette McGuinness will still translate it all into English, but now Editor Carol Burrell and Associate Editor Bethany Bryan will put the comics together working with artist Ryan Jampole, colorists Mindy Indy and Jayjay Jackson, and letterers Wilson Ramos, Jr. and Grace Lu. We think we've managed to maintain the style you've come to love, and we're eager to hear what you think. Please send your feedback to the addresses listed below.

So, until we meet again in THEA STILTON #6, be sure not to miss GERONIMO STILTON #16 *Lights, Camera, Stilton!* Check out the preview on the following pages.

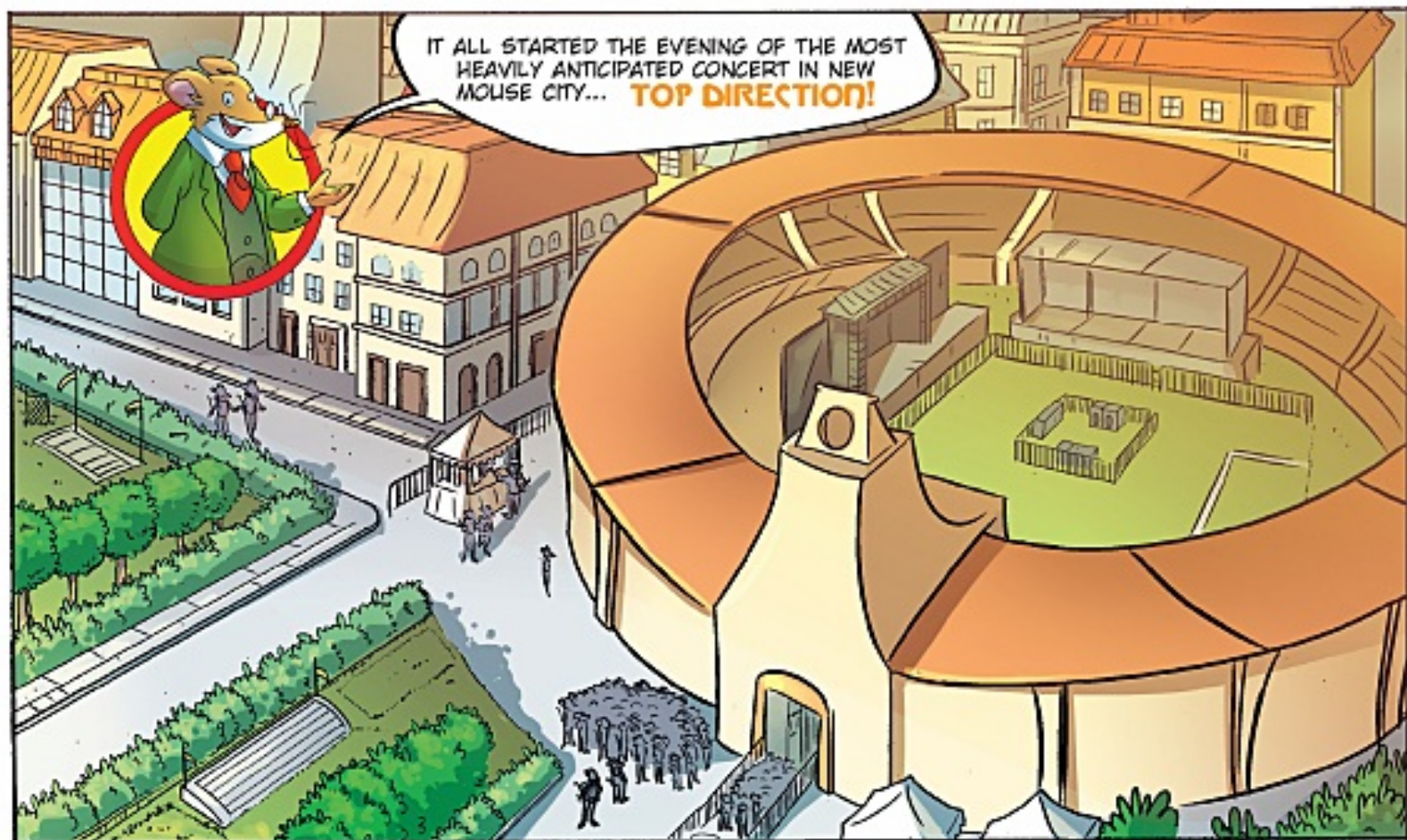
Thanks,

Jim



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I WAS TO GO THERE WITH BENJAMIN, BUGSY WUGSY, AND MY SISTER THEA, BUT I WAS FEELING PRETTY ANXIOUS...

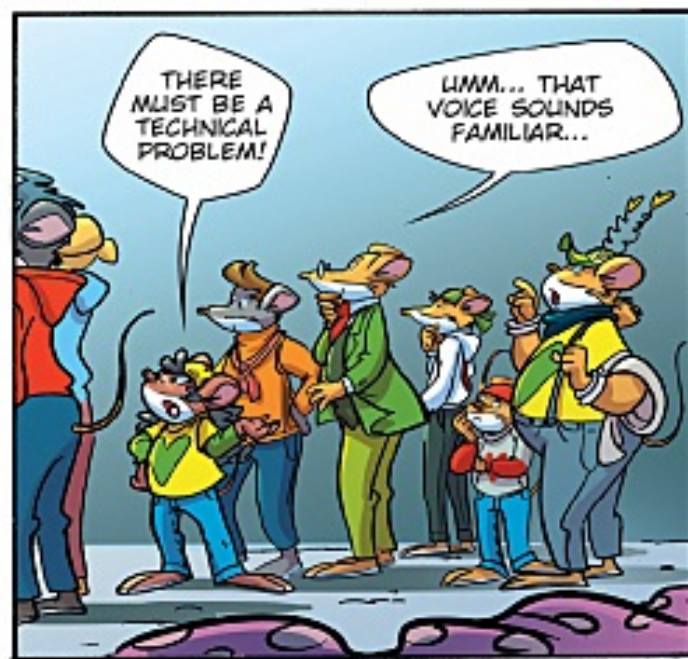


BUT HOW SCATTERBRAINED OF ME! I
HAVEN'T YET INTRODUCED MYSELF. MY
NAME IS STILTON, *Geronimo Stilton*, AND I
EDIT THE RODENT'S GAZETTE, THE MOST
FAMOUS PAPER ON MOUSE ISLAND!









Don't Miss GERONIMO STILTON #16 "Lights, Camera, Stilton!"

WILD DANGER IN THE WOODS!

Mouseford Academy is planning a spring field trip to the waterfall in the forest, but angry bears are chasing people! Something strange is going on—could Vissia de Vissen be up to her nefarious tricks again? If Colette, Nicky, Pamela, Paulina, and Violet don't figure out what's happening, the whole forest could be turned upside down. But not even Vissia de Vissen can steal a waterfall—can she?



"I WENT INTO THE FOREST THIS MORNING TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING WOULD BE OKAY FOR THE FIELD TRIP TOMORROW."



"WHEN SUDDENLY..."



The Thea Sisters are five fun, lively students at Mouseford Academy on Whale Island, who want to be real, live journalists. Between classes and friendships, love and small fits of jealousy, they find life at the Academy to be a never-ending adventure!

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